

PUBLIC WORKS
1113 BROADWAY
P.O. BOX 218
HIGHLAND, IL 62249



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

- After over 5 years of Public Works newsletters, today will be the last in the current format.
- Like us on Facebook for important information and project updates.
- www.facebook.com/highlandpublic-works



Joe Gillespie
Director

Mike Lengermann
Supervisor—ST&A

Russ Parker
Supervisor—W&S

Bill Zimmer
Supervisor—WRF

Mike Buss
Supervisor—WTP

Clint Conrad
Resident Engineer

Sherry Kesner
Admin. Assistant

Public Works

(6 1 8) 6 5 4 - 6 8 2 3

MARCH 7, 2014

Severe Weather Preparedness

March is Severe Weather Preparedness month in Illinois. There were 54 tornadoes in Illinois during 2013 which resulted in eight fatalities, 187 injuries and widespread damage to more than 2,000 properties.

Tornadoes can occur any time of year. On November 17 last year Illinois experienced 25 tornadoes, including two EF4 storms.

Prepare now for the 2014 season and include a NOAA weather radio with battery back-up as part of your emergency plans.



REQUEST TO BE NOTIFIED IN THE EVENT OF SEVERE WEATHER WARNINGS

If you have a land line phone with a number that is listed in the phone directory you are already in the CodeRED system. If, however, your family has an unlisted land line number or uses only cellular phones, you need to register your number so that you will receive the emergency notifications. Visit www.highlandil.gov and click on the CodeRED logo to register additional phones or to provide an e-mail address for notification.

OUTDOOR WEATHER ALERT SYSTEM ACTIVATION

While the Outdoor Weather Alert System may be used for emergencies and situations other than weather, its primary use is for notifying the public of impending severe weather situations. The Highland Police Department has adopted the criteria for activating the sirens to coincide with the National Weather Service standard for "Severe Weather".

If the National Weather Service has predicted severe weather for the Highland area, the communications center should receive advance warnings and updates from the National Weather Service. Criteria for activation of the weather alert system:

- A tornado has been sighted or indicate by radar **within a 15 air mile radius** of Highland or Grantfork, and/or is tracking toward Highland or Grantfork.
- A severe thunderstorm is reported in the **15 mile radius** or tracking towards Highland/Grantfork that has reported hail 1 inch or more in diameter or damaging winds of a 58 mph maximum sustained winds (not wind gusts).

Please note that the City of Highland does **NOT** sound an "ALL CLEAR" tone.

WHAT TO DO WHEN THE OUTDOOR SIREN SOUNDS

- Go inside right away
- Turn on a radio or television to hear the latest weather information
- Take shelter in an inside room or basement

Remember: The emergency alert siren is for outdoor notification. Don't expect it to notify you of weather conditions while you are indoors.

Illinois Emergency Management, along with the National Weather Service have developed a Severe Weather Preparedness Guide. The guide is available on the Ready Illinois website, www.ReadyIllinois.gov or by calling (217) 785-9925.